

# WELLS FARGO

OF ANY OF HIS SHIPS.

## GERMAN'S CLAIM DENIED

**Berlin Says British Fleet Withdrawn and Fight Ended—Vice-Admiral Beatty Says Engagement Was Broken Off by the Presence of Submarines—Deny Loss of Ships.**  
An admiralty report given out in

London Wednesday describes the naval action of last Sunday in the terms of Vice-Admiral Beatty: "A flotilla of destroyers patrolling about 7:30 o'clock in the morning sighted and attacked the enemy, whose force, according to the reports received, consisted of four battleships."

"Orders were given by signal to the destroyer flotilla to chase the enemy and to report their movements. As it appeared that they had at once commenced to retire to the east-southeast the battle cruisers were directed to steer southeast, with a view of securing the lee position and of cutting the enemy off if possible. The situation developed by degrees into a stern chase.

"Speed was worked up to 28 or 29 knots.

"The Lion and the Tiger, having drawn ahead of the remainder of the squadron, were in action alone for some time and consequently were subjected to the enemy's concentrated fire. The Tiger was hit by a shell which ship suffered more as a result."

"The other vessels, as they drew up, engaged the enemy. A German flotilla of destroyers was dispersed on the starboard beam of their cruisers and an attack by them was driven off."

"At about 11 o'clock, unfortunately, the Lion and the Tiger were hit by a salvo of four 16-inch shells, causing the port

"The Bluecher (German) was speeded up in a critical condition, with her speed reduced, and the Indomitable, which had advanced now come up, was directed to complete her destruction.

"The rest of the squadron were directed to attack the rear of the German fleet with her escort, steering to the northwest, steaming with one engine, and I transferred my flag to one of the destroyers and subsequently to the Princess Royal. Through the damage to the Lion's speed tank and the unfortunate chance of a fire, she was seriously deprived of a greater victory. The unfortunate

The enemy's submarines subsequently necessitated the action being broken on the 10th.

The result of the action was that the Bluecher was sunk and two other battleship cruisers were heavily on fire and seriously damaged. The German prisoners reported also that the Kolofon had been sunk by over-kill from our squadron.

Subsequent to the starboard attack the Lion also developed trouble from the same cause as the port ship and the Indomitable took her in tow and brought her into port. The damage to the Lion and the Tiger (Continued on last page.)

**PREFER DEADLY SQUAUGHTS.**

Naval Officials Put Their Faith in Heavy Armor Ships.

Naval experts figure that it will require an annual appropriation of \$100,000,000 to build the new fleet.

to choose between building dreadnoughts or battle cruisers, they would unhesitatingly turn to the dread-

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battleships which now make up the Atlantic fleet.

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**BOSSING CHINA.**

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Japan Makes Twenty-one Demands Upon Chinese Government.

Certain political and territorial demands which Japan has made upon China following the Japanese occupation of Kiao-Chow have become known in Peking and their extent is disquieting to Chinese officials. These demands, 21 in number

were communicated to the Chinese government January 23, by the Japanese minister. They include, first, that China turn over to Japan all existing German and Austrian concessions; second, that China pledge herself not to give concessions in the future to any country except Japan.

Russians Destroy Zeppelin.

London reports the destruction of a Zeppelin which dropped bombs into Libau on Monday. The crew were captured, says the Petrograd dispatch.